

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-14, 16, and 18 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 8, 17 and 19-28 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1 and 10 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-14, 16-19, 21-24 and 26-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Iida et al. (EP 0 580 436 A2) in view of Murray et al. and Liz-Marzan et al. (WO 99/21934). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 19, 21-24 and 26-28 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thus rendering moot the rejection against those claims.

Claims 1 and 10 each recite, amongst other features, a modal diameter in particle size distribution of the particles being not smaller than $\frac{1}{4}$ and not larger than one times as large as a Bohr radius of an exciton of the semiconductor. This feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by either Iida et al., Murray et al., or Liz-Marzan et al. Accordingly, the combination fails to include all the claim limitations and fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

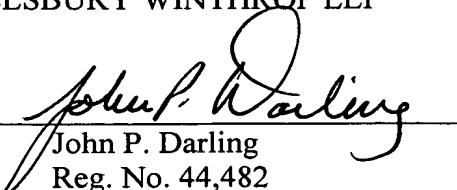
Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-18 are respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are allowable and the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By:


John P. Darling
Reg. No. 44,482
Telephone: (703) 905-2045
Facsimile: (703) 905-2500

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P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 905-2000